

## CLAIMS

1 1. A method for remote monitoring of a premises, said method comprising the steps of:  
2       operatively coupling a remote client to a security system server, said security  
3       system server being capable of authenticating a user of said remote client;  
4       operatively coupling said remote client to a security gateway, said security  
5       gateway being capable of managing the monitoring of one or more portions of said  
6       premises;  
7       activating a signal at said premises for notifying an occupant at said premises that  
8       remote monitoring is occurring; and  
9       transferring information between said security gateway and said remote client;  
10       wherein said user is at a location which is geographically remote from said  
11       premises.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of transferring information between said security  
2       gateway and said remote client is controlled by said user of said remote client.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said security gateway is operably coupled to at least one  
2       camera located at said premises.

1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein said remote client is operable to control the output of  
2       said at least one camera located at said premises.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein said security gateway is operably coupled to at least one  
2       audio station.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein said remote client is operable to control the output of  
2       said at least one audio station.

1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein said signal comprises an audible signal.

1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein said audible signal is transmitted to a speaker.

1 9. The method of claim 7, wherein said audible signal comprises a sound uniquely  
2       associated with said user.

- 1 10. The method of claim 7, wherein said audible signal comprises speech.
- 1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein said audible signal identifies said user.
- 1 12. The method of claim 1, wherein said signal comprises visual data.
- 1 13. The method of claim 12, wherein said visual data comprises a depiction of said user.
- 1 14. The method of claim 12, wherein said visual data comprises a graphical image.
- 1 15. The method of claim 12, wherein said visual data comprises an alphanumeric message.
- 1 16. The method of claim 15, wherein said alphanumeric message identifies said user.
- 1 17. The method of claim 15, wherein said step of activating said signal comprises  
2 transmitting said alphanumeric message to a keypad located at said premises.
- 1 18. The method of claim 12, wherein said visual data is transmitted to a display device.
- 1 19. The method of claim 18, wherein said display device comprises a television.
- 1 20. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of activating said signal comprises activating a  
2 light source at said premises.
- 1 21. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of activating said signal comprises activating  
2 an LED located on said camera.
- 1 22. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of activating said signal comprises activating  
2 an LED located on a keypad located at said premises.

- 1 23. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:  
2 verifying the identification of said user of said remote client;  
3 transmitting an access token from said security system server to said remote  
4 client; and  
5 providing said security gateway with information about said user and said access  
6 token;  
7 wherein said access token is adapted to allow said remote client to access said  
8 security gateway based on said user's permission profile; and  
9 wherein said user's permission profile is created by a general administrator of said  
10 security gateway.
- 1 24. The method of claim 23, wherein said general administrator of said security  
2 system is capable of modifying said user's permission profile.
- 1 25. The method of claim 23, wherein said step of verifying said identification of said user  
2 comprises authenticating biometric data.
- 1 26. The method of claim 23, wherein said access token expires at a designated time and date.
- 1 27. The method of claim 23, wherein said access token expires after a designated length of  
2 time has elapsed.
- 1 28. The method of claim 23, wherein said access token expires after a designated number of  
2 accesses have occurred.
- 1 29. The method of claim 23, wherein said access token allows access to specific features of  
2 said security gateway according to said user's permission profile.
- 1 30. The method of claim 23, wherein said access token allows access to one or more  
2 designated cameras located at said premises.
- 1 31. The method of claim 23, wherein said access token allows access to one or more  
2 designated audio stations located at said premises.

- 1 32. The method of claim 1, wherein said security gateway comprises a controller capable of  
2 performing one or more building automation and control functions.
- 1 33. The method of claim 32, further comprising the step of:  
2 operably coupling said remote client to said controller, wherein said controller is  
3 capable of controlling one or more air conditioning systems at said premises.
- 1 34. The method of claim 32, further comprising the step of:  
2 operably coupling said remote client to said controller, wherein said controller is  
3 capable of controlling one or more doors at said premises.
- 1 35. The method of claim 32, further comprising the step of:  
2 operably coupling said remote client to said controller, wherein said controller is  
3 capable of controlling one or more lighting devices at said premises.
- 1 36. The method of claim 32, further comprising the step of:  
2 operably coupling said remote client to said controller, wherein said controller is  
3 capable of controlling an irrigation system at said premises.
- 1 37. The method of claim 32, further comprising the step of:  
2 operably coupling said remote client to said controller, wherein said controller is  
3 capable of controlling an electrical appliance at said premises.
- 1 38. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:  
2 streaming data in substantially real-time from said security gateway to said  
3 remote client.
- 1 39. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:  
2 enabling substantially real-time audio communication between said remote client  
3 and said security gateway.
- 1 40. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:  
2 enabling substantially real-time video communication between said remote client  
3 and said security gateway.

- 1 41. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:  
2 enabling substantially real-time synchronized audio and video communication  
3 between said remote client and said security gateway.
- 1 42. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:  
2 recording audio and video data during a particular time period.
- 1 43. The method of claim 42, wherein said particular time period comprises intervals  
2 according to a pre-determined schedule.
- 1 44. The method of claim 42, wherein said particular time period is determined upon demand  
2 of an administrator of said security gateway.
- 1 45. The method of claim 42, wherein said particular time period begins prior to triggering of  
2 an alarm.
- 1 46. The method of claim 42, wherein said particular time period begins upon triggering of an  
2 alarm.
- 1 47. The method of claim 46, wherein said security gateway continuously caches audio and  
2 video data.
- 1 48. The method of claim 42, wherein said particular time period begins prior to triggering of  
2 a sensor.
- 1 49. The method of claim 42, wherein said particular time period begins upon triggering of a  
2 sensor.
- 1 50. The method of claim 49, wherein said security gateway continuously caches audio and  
2 video data.
- 1 51. The method of claim 42, wherein said recorded audio and video data are used to provide  
2 context for an alarm event.

1 52. The method of claim 49, wherein said security gateway continuously caches audio and  
2 video data.

1 53. A method for remote monitoring of a residential premises, said method comprising the  
2 steps of:

3 operatively coupling a remote client to a security system server, said security  
4 system server being capable of authenticating a user of said remote client;

5 verifying the identification of said user of said remote client;

6 transmitting an access token from said security system server to said remote  
7 client;

8 providing said security gateway with information about said user and said access  
9 token;

10 operatively coupling said remote client to a security gateway, said security  
11 gateway being capable of managing the monitoring of one or more portions of said  
12 premises;

13 activating a signal at said premises for notifying an occupant at said premises that  
14 remote monitoring is occurring; and

15 transferring information between said security gateway and said remote client;

16 wherein said user is at a location which is geographically remote from said  
17 premises;

18 wherein said security gateway is operably coupled to at least one camera located  
19 at said premises;

20 wherein said security gateway is operably coupled to at least one audio station  
21 located at said premises;

22 wherein said access token is adapted to allow said remote client to access said  
23 security gateway based on said user's permission profile; and

24 wherein said user's permission profile is created by a general administrator of said  
25 security gateway.

1 54. A security system for remote monitoring of a premises by a user of a remote client, said  
2 security system comprising:  
3 a security system server, said security system server being capable of  
4 authenticating said user of said remote client;  
5 a security gateway operatively coupled to said security system server via a  
6 network, said security gateway being capable of managing the monitoring of one or more  
7 portions of said premises;  
8 one or more cameras located at said premises and operatively coupled to said  
9 security gateway; and  
10 one or more audio stations located at said premises and operatively coupled to  
11 said security gateway;  
12 wherein said user is at a location which is geographically remote from said  
13 premises; and  
14 wherein said security gateway provides an audiovisual signal at said premises for  
15 notifying an occupant at said premises that remote monitoring is occurring.

1 55. The security system of claim 54, wherein said security gateway comprises a controller  
2 capable of performing building automation control functions.

1 56. The security system of claim 54, wherein said security system provides for streaming  
2 data in substantially real-time from said security gateway to said remote client.

1 57. The security system of claim 54, wherein said security system provides for substantially  
2 real-time synchronized audio and video communication between said remote client and  
3 said security gateway.

1 58. The system of claim 54, wherein said security system server provides said remote client  
2 with an access token based on a permission profile associated with said user.

1 59. A security system for remote monitoring of a residential premises by a user of a remote  
2 client, said security system comprising:  
3 a security system server, said security system server being capable of  
4 authenticating said user of said remote client;  
5 a security gateway operatively coupled to said security system server via a  
6 network, said security gateway being capable of managing the monitoring of one or more  
7 portions of said premises;  
8 one or more cameras located at said premises and operatively coupled to said  
9 security gateway; and  
10 one or more audio stations located at said premises and operatively coupled to  
11 said security gateway;  
12 wherein said user is at a location which is geographically remote from said  
13 premises;  
14 wherein said security gateway provides an audiovisual signal at said premises for  
15 notifying an occupant at said premises that remote monitoring is occurring;  
16 wherein said security system provides for streaming data in substantially real-time  
17 from said security gateway to said remote client;  
18 wherein said security system provides for substantially real-time synchronized  
19 audio and video communication between said remote client and said security gateway;  
20 and  
21 wherein said security system server provides said remote client with an access  
22 - token based on a permission profile associated with said user.